

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PALERM 00600 220741Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 OES-07 FEA-01 ERDA-07 /036 W
-----128652 220827Z /15

R 220715Z AUG 77
FM AMCONSUL PALERMO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2188
INFO USDOC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMCONSUL MILAN

UNCLAS PALERMO 0600

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC

MILAN FOR TRADE CENTER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, TECH, ENERG, IT

SUBJECT: SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS IN SICILY

1. FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS REFLECT GROWING, CONCRETE INTEREST IN
EXPLOITING SICILY'S SOLAR ENERGY CAPABILITIES:

A) ON JULY 14, 1977, SICILIAN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY PASSED A SOLAR
ENERGY LAW THAT IS REPORTEDLY THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN ITALY.
THE LAW VOTED 3.7 BILLION LIRE (CA. 4 MILLION DOLS.) TO BE SPENT
OVER THE PERIOD 1978-82 FOR RESEARCH AND THE PRODUCTION OF SOLAR
ENERGY EQUIPMENT.

THE LAW (COPIES POUCHED STATE/OES) IS A SYNTHESIS OF PREVIOUS BILLS
PROPOSED BY SEVERAL POLITICAL PARTIES AND BY THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT
(PALERMO A-7 OF NOV. 24, 1976 AND A-2 OF JANUARY 18, 1977).

SUBSEQUENT TO PASSAGE THE LAW WAS REJECTED BY THE ITALIAN STATE
COMMISSIONER FOR SICILY ON GROUNDS THAT IT CONFLICTED WITH
NATIONAL GOVERNMENT'S PREROGATIVES IN RESEARCH. STRONGLY CRITICIZED
LOCALLY, IT IS EXPECTED THAT NATIONAL GOVERNMENT'S RULING WILL BE
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EASILY OVERCOME BY CONSTITUTIONAL COURT IN REQUIRED REVIEW PROCESS
OR BY MINOR AMENDMENTS TO TEXT.

B) ACCORDING TO AUGUST 1 LA REPUBBLICA, THE FIRST SOLAR ENERGY O
POWER STATION TO BE BUILT UNDER EC AUSPICES WILL BE LOCATED NEAR
POZZILLO IN CATANIA PROVINCE. THE 1000KW STATION WILL REPORTEDLY
BE BUILT BY A CONSORTIUM WHICH INCLUDES ITALY'S ANSALDO AS WELL AS
GERMAN AND FRENCH INDUSTRIAL GROUPS. REPUBBLICA REPORTS ALSO THAT

EC HAS APPROVED A 2 BILLION LIRE (2.2 MILLION DOLS.) CONTRIBUTION
TO THE PROJECT, ESTIMATED COST OF WHICH IS 10 BILLION LIRE (11 MILLIO
N
DOLS.).

C) A SOLAR ENERGY SYMPOSIUM WAS PROMINENT FEATURE OF RECENTLY-
CONCLUDED MESSINA FUR. IPORTANT ROLE THAT SICILY CAN PLAY IN
SOLAR ENERGY RESEARCH AND APPLICATION WAS AGAIN EMPHASIZED.

INCLUDING THE PALERMO CONFERENCE/EXPOSITION LAST JUNE (PALERMO 430),
THIS IS THE FOURTH SUCH MEETING TO BE HELD IN SICILY SINCE BEGINNING
OF YEAR. COLLINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SOLAR POWER, PROGRESS REPORTS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PALERM00600
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770302-0376
Format: TEL
From: PALERMO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770837/aaaabfeq.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ab68fa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1527682
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS IN SICILY
TAGS: BEXP, TECH, ENRG, IT
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ab68fa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009